

Message Text

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20

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 SPC-03

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-08 TAR-02 PRS-01

PA-04 USIA-15 AGR-20 DRC-01 /139 W

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R 220255Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0729

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, TW, KS

SUBJECT: MUSHROOMS

REF: TAIPEI 0303

1. AT MEETING WITH ECONCOUNS JANUARY 21, Y.T. WONG, DIRECTOR OF BOARD OF FOREIGN TRADE, ECHOED STATEMENTS MADE JANUARY 15 BY SPOKESMAN TAIWAN MUSHROOM PACKERS UNITED EXPORT CORPORATION (TMPUEC). WONG AGREED IT IS IMPOSSIBLE PREDICT PRECISELY THIS EARLY IN YEAR ROC MUSHROOM PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS. HE IS OF OPINION, BASED ON FIRM ORDERS ALREADY IN HAND FROM US IMPORTERS AND EXTRAPOLATING THEREFROM, THAT EXPORTS TO US WILL BE AT LEAST 28 MILLION POUNDS.

2. WONG ADMITTED ROC EXPORT PRICE PER CASE UNDOUBTEDLY WILL RISE APPRECIABLY IN 1974 OWING TO INCREASED LABOR COSTS AND GENERAL INFLATION. HE IS CONFIDENT, HOWEVER, THAT ROC WILL CONTINUE TO BE COMPETITIVE SINCE SAME PRESSURES ON PRICES ALSO WILL BE FELT IN KOREA AND IN OTHER COUNTRIES EXPORTING MUSHROOMS TO US.

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3. WONG STATED HE HAD NO INFORMATION THAT LACK OF SHIPPING WAS AFFECTING ROC MUSHROOM EXPORTS IN 1974. THIS COULD BECOME A PROBLEM LATER ON IN YEAR IF ENERGY CRISIS WORSENS AND SHIPPING SCHEDULES ARE CURTAILED. HE IS CONCERNED THAT FREIGHT RATES MAY BE INCREASED DUE TO INCREASED COSTS OF BUNKER FUEL. IF RATES RISE PRECIPITOUSLY ROC EXPORTS (AND EXPORTS FROM KOREA) COULD BE LESS ATTRACTIVE TO US IMPORTERS.
MCCONAUGHY

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 22 JAN 1974
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Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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